CLAIMS

1. A gel made of hyaluronic acid alone which is hardly soluble in a neutral aqueous solution.

2. The hyaluronic acid gel according to Claim 1, which keeps its shape for at least one day in a neutral aqueous solution at 25°C.

3. The hyaluronic acid gel according to Claim 1, which dissolves in a neutral aqueous solution at 25°C in one day to a degree of dissolution of at most 50%.

4. The hyaluronic acid gel according to Claim 1, which dissolves in a neutral aqueous solution at 37°C in 12 hours to a degree of dissolution of at most 50%.

5. The hyaluronic acid gel according to Claim 1, which dissolves to yield solubilized hyaluronic acid having a branched structure and partly containing a molecular weight fraction with a branching degree of at least 0.5, when treated under accelerating conditions for acid hydrolysis of hyaluronic acid.

6. The hyaluronic acid gel according to Claim 1, which is obtained by freezing and then thawing a hyaluronic acid aqueous solution at pH 3.5 or below.

7. A method of producing the hyaluronic acid gel according to Claim 6, which comprises adjusting a hyaluronic acid aqueous solution to pH 3.5 or below, and freezing and thawing the solution at least once.

8. A biomedical material containing a gel made of hyaluronic acid alone which satisfies the following

requirements (a) and (b):

(a) the hyaluronic acid gel dissolves in a neutral aqueous solution at 25°C in one day to a degree of dissolution of at most 50%, and

(b) the gel dissolves to yield solubilized hyaluronic acid having a branched structure and partly containing a molecular weight fraction with a branching degree of at least 0.5, when treated under accelerating conditions for acid hydrolysis of hyaluronic acid.

9. The biomedical material according to Claim 8, wherein the gel made of hyaluronic acid alone is sheet-like, filmy, flaky, spongy, massive, fibrous or tubular.

10. A biomedical material containing a hyaluronic acid gel and un-gelled hyaluronic acid, wherein the hyaluronic acid gel dissolves in a neutral aqueous solution at most 50%, and the hyaluronic acid gel dissolves to yield solubilized hyaluronic acid having a branched structure and partly containing a molecular weight fraction with a branching degree of at least 0.5, when treated under accelerating conditions for acid hydrolysis of hyaluronic acid.

11. A biomedical material containing a sheet-like, filmy, spongy, massive, fibrous or tubular hyaluronic acid gel made of hyaluronic acid alone and un-gelled hyaluronic acid.

12. The biomedical material according to any one of Claims 8 to 11, which is an adhesion preventive.

add A1